

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 00412 161602Z
ACTION EUR-12

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P R 161526Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2726
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION BERLIN
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMCONSUL KRAKOW POUCH
AMCONSUL POZNAN POUCH

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MOSCOW ALSO PASS KIEV

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP PL
SUBJ: CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION
 FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, JANUARY 12, 1978

REF: (A) WARSAW 0322 (B) WARSAW A-008

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER WOJTASZEK (WHO IS ON
LEAVE) AND VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI (WHO IS IN THE HOSPI-
TAL WITH A SUSPECTED SLIPPED DISC), DEPARTMENT III DIRECTOR
SZEWCZYK ASKED ME TO COME AND SEE HIM THIS MORNING. SZEWCZYK
SAID THAT, BEFORE HE WENT ON LEAVE, WOJTASZEK HAD ASKED HIM TO
GIVE ME A MESSAGE. FIRST, WOJTASZEK WANTED TO THANK ME FOR THE
NOTE I SENT HIM JANUARY 13 (BEING POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT WITH
REF B), EXPRESSING MY REGRET AND EXPLAINING WHY I HAD FELT
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COMPELLED TO LEAVE THE CHAIRMAN'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION EARLY.
AT THE SAME TIME, WOJTASZEK WANTED ME TO KNOW THAT HE FELT THE
REACTION WAS PERHAPS EXTREME AND NOT FULLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE FRIENDLY STATE OF US-POLISH RELATIONS, IN VIEW OF THE FACT
THAT THE HOST WAS POLISH.

2. I SAID I QUITE UNDERSTOOD THE MINISTER'S FEELING. THAT WAS

WHY I HAD HASTENED ON JANUARY 13 TO SEND NOTES OF REGRET TO THE MINISTER AND TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE. I SAID I TRUSTED THAT A PARALLEL EXPRESSION OF FEELING WAS BEING CONVEYED TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, WHOSE DIFFICULTY IN CORRECTLY PERFORMING HIS ROLE AS DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS HAD GIVEN RISE TO MY DEPARTURE.

3. I SAID THAT, IF I WERE GOING TO BE STAYING ON IN WARSAW, I SHOULD SOLVE THE PROBLEM QUITE SIMPLY, BY NOT ATTENDING SUCH RECEPTIONS SO LONG AS THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR WAS DEAN. IN VIEW OF MY PLANNED DEPARTURE ON FEBRUARY 2, THE MINISTER WOULD BE RELIEVED OF FURTHER INQUIETUDE IN THIS CONNECTION.

4. SZEWCZYK SAID THAT, SOLELY OUT OF CONCERN FOR THE GOOD RELATIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, THE MINISTER HAD WANTED HIM TO PASS ON THIS MESSAGE TO ME. HE ADDED THAT THE POLISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE MENTIONING THE MATTER IN THE DEPARTMENT. I SAID I QUITE UNDERSTOOD AND THAT MY OWN STRONG CONCERN FOR THOSE GOOD RELATIONS HAD BEEN THE GROUND FOR THE EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET I HAD SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE AND TO THE MINISTER.

DAVIES

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